Docket No.: FR 000078

REMARKS

I.   INTRODUCTION

Claims 1-6 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-6 remain pending in the present application. No new matter has been added. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable.

II.   THE 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,195,368 to Gratacap ("Gratacap"). (See 01/10/06 Office Action, p. 3, ¶ 4).

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, an interconnection network comprising a plurality of logic circuits, each of which corresponds to one of said plurality of terminals, for supplying a plurality of final control values based on the basic control data item and the additional control data item, wherein the interconnection network applies selected ones of the data items in a selected one of the successive groups of data from said input circuit to corresponding ones of said plurality of terminals of said processing circuit if the corresponding final control value indicates the data item is valid and, *wherein one of the plurality of logic circuit replaces a basic control value of the corresponding basic control data item* if the corresponding final control value indicates the data item is not valid. (Emphasis added).

In contrast, Gratacap relates to a method and system for remultiplexing program bearing data. Specifically, Gratacap describes a method for remultiplexing a transport stream ("TS") of an audio-video program. (See Gratacap, col. 6, 11. 8-11). The TS is described as carrying program specific information ("PSI") in transport packets for identifying data of a desired program for decoding. (See Id., col. 3, 11. 53-60). The transport packets are described as carrying a program association table ("PAT"), wherein the PAT correlates each program with a packet identifier ("PID") of the transport packets carrying program definitions for that program.

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(See Id.). All program definitions of a TS are referred to as a program mapping table ("PMT") that can be extracted by a decoder. (See Id., col. 3, l. 67 – col. 4, l. 9).

According to Gratacap, a processor within the remultiplexer architecture is used to generate and modify a PID filter map for selective extraction of desired transport packets. (See Id., col. 15, l. 63 – col. 16, l. 10). In addition, the processor generates interrupt receipt handlers for processing the transport packets based on the PID of the transport packet. (See. Id.). The receipt handler may cause the processor to remap the PID of the transport packet. (See. Id.). Furthermore, using the PID, the processor indexes entries of a table of pointers to receipt PID handler subroutines in order to identify the pointer to the subroutine to be executed for that particular transport packet. (See Id., col. 19, ll. 50-54).

Modifications can be made to pointers of the receipt PID handler subroutine pointer table that is indexed by the PIDs of to-be-discarded transport packets. (See Id., col. 32, ll. 49-51). However, such a modification in the table would lead to changes in the operation of the processor, such as selecting an appropriate PID handler subroutine for the generation of a new PSI. (See Id., col. 32, l. 54 – col. 33, l. 24). Furthermore, any change that occurs requires extra care (e.g., delaying the change) to make certain the outputted remultiplexed TS is compliant. (See Id.). Care must be take in the ordering of changes for processing, such as storing a pointer to a handler subroutine in the pointer table entry prior to altering the PID filter map use for retaining transport packets having this PID. (See Id.). Thus, the modifications that are made to the pointers according to Gratacap consequently result in generating new identification data and new program definitions (e.g., association table) for the transport packets of the TS, and thus, special care is need following the modification to ensure compliant processing.

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The modification of remapping the PID filter map creates a need to alter several components of the processing operation and a need to carefully order the sequence of the resulting modifications. As opposed to replacing one value from an invalid value to a valid value, Gratacap reconfigures the PID filter map due to the reassignment of the pointers within the table. The Examiner asserts that modifying the pointers provides the same end result of a memory address that referred to an invalid value now refers to a valid value. (See 01/10/06 Office Action, p. 2, ¶ 2, "Examiner's Response"). However, this is clearly not the case. The modification is not equivalent to the replacement of a control value of a control data item. Gratacap does not describe a replacement mechanism as a "invalid value out, valid value in" process as described by the present invention. The modification mechanism described by Gratacap calls for remapping the PID filter map, selecting of new subroutines, and reconfiguring the components and the processing order of the overall procedures in order to redirect the pointer of the table to a to-be-retained transport packet.

Accordingly, Gratacap neither teaches nor suggests "*wherein one of the plurality of logic circuit replaces a basic control value of the corresponding basic control data item if the corresponding final control value indicates the data item is not valid*" as recited in claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that for at least the reasons stated above, claim 1 of the present application is not anticipated by Gratacap, and request that the rejection of this claim be withdrawn. As claim 4 depends from, and therefore includes all the limitations of claim 1, it is hereby submitted that claim 4 is also allowable.

The Examiner rejected claim 2 for the same reasons as the rejection of claim 1 over Gratacap. (See 01/10/06 Office Action, p. 3, ¶ 4). Claim 2 recites "applying the data items in a selected one of the successive groups of data to terminals of a processor if the corresponding final control value indicates the data item is valid and *replacing a basic control value of the*

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corresponding basic control item if the corresponding final control value indicates the data item is not valid to apply a valid data item selected from among the data items within the selected group of data instead, wherein the data items applied are processed in order to obtain an output data item." (Emphasis added). Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1. As claim 5 depends from, and therefore includes all the limitations of claim 2, it is hereby submitted that claim 5 is also allowable.

The Examiner rejected claim 3 as being inherently taught by Gratacap. (See 01/10/06 Office Action, p. 4, ¶ 4). Claim 3 recites "an application step in which data items of a selected one of the successive groups of data are applied to terminals of a processor if the corresponding final control value indicates the data item is valid [and] a replacement step for *replacing a basic control value of the corresponding basic control data item if the corresponding final control value indicates the data item is not valid* to apply a valid data item selected from among the data items within the selected group of data instead." (Emphasis added). Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 3 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1. As claim 6 depends from, and therefore includes all the limitations of claim 3, it is hereby submitted that claim 6 is also allowable.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the now

pending claims are in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner having been

addressed. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.
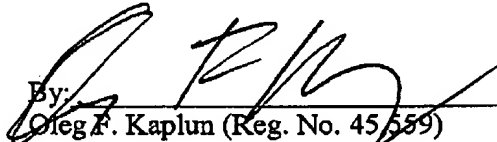
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